



FARMERS PROTEST OIL POLICY

See Further Increase In Living Cost

Minimum Food Requirements Go Up 65% Since 1939 With More Boosts Coming

AS CONTROLS OFF

OTTAWA. — Concern of the Canadian Congress of Labour at living costs outstripping wages is receiving strong support from welfare workers. The seriousness of the situation is accentuated by the fact that sharp increases in a number of essential foods are expected within the next few months.

The medical director of the Montreal Child Welfare Association said recently: "Pre-school children are actually showing the effects of lack of adequate food." Another welfare official put it even more bluntly: "Thirty per cent of Canadians are semistarved today, even though they may not be hungry."

In 1940 the Canadian Medical Association prepared a report on minimum food requirements for a family of five. Cost of milk, vegetables, fruit, eggs, meat and fish came to \$8.95 a week. In May the Montreal Welfare Federation did some careful buying and found it cost \$14.78 to meet

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PERSONAL STUFF

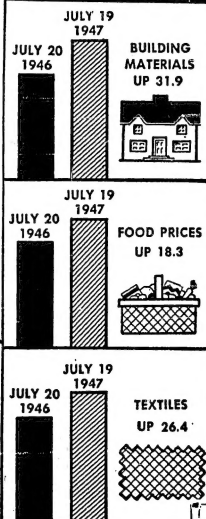
BY E. E. R.

People who a few years ago would have been allowed to die are now being restored to health again by the infusion of someone else's blood into their veins. Until now it has been a mighty costly business, \$25,000 a shot, and some cases it has run into hundreds of dollars. On top of a hospital bill it is for a poor person an intolerable burden, and too big a burden for almost anyone. To take care of this need the Red Cross has started its wonderful blood transfusion service. The first unit was opened in Vancouver last January. The second unit began in Edmonton, for Alberta, last month. Already scores of people have received benefit from it. The blood is given under a contract between the hospitals and the Red Cross, with the stipulation that there is to be no charge of any kind for it. Previously a patient could arrange for donors but he still had to pay the hospital a service charge. Under the Red Cross scheme the patient pays nothing, for the blood or the service. That is the only basis on which a hospital can have the service. That is the only basis on which the Red Cross would do it. The blood is given voluntarily. There must be no charge for it to anybody.

It is interesting to attend one of the clinics, if only to see the people come in. Strangely enough, or maybe not so strangely, the so-called "weaker" sex predominate.

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New Price Peak



Charts show advance in wholesale prices to new postwar peak as reported by U.S. Labor Dept. Food prices, building materials, up 31.9% over last year; food, up 18.3% and textiles, up 26.4%. Other figures, not shown, were hides and leather products, up 24%; farm products, up 14.6%, and housefurnishings, up 16.8%. (Federated Pictures)

NEW RIDINGS CAUSE SOME BITTER TALK

Coldwell Opposes Present Form of Redistribution of Commons Seats

OTTAWA, (CPA).—Final flurry of the 1947 session of Parliament was the punchy debate over the redistribution bill, which increases the number of seats in the Commons from 245 to 255 and which threatens to swamp five important Conservative seats including the one Saskatchewan outpost, Lake Centre.

Bitterly the Progressive-Conservative leader, John Bracken, called down the government for "unfairness," "partisanship," and "discrimination," declaring that the newly-drawn Lake Centre constituency, with a predominantly C.C.F. territory added to the north and

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RADIO FUND DOES A BAD NOSE DIVE

This week's radio list is a shock to the faithful. This is a time when Radio is important and if it is to be continued the radio will have to be kept up. 'What the week's list is a total of \$7. This to do about it.

Received at the office: Mr. L. H. Woody \$3, J. R. Hartman \$1, Mrs. F. A. Billingham \$2, Alex Halwa \$1.

Unions Are Turning To Co-operative

See Way to Lick Profit Prices Which Keep Real Wages Below Decent Standard

ACTION PLANNED

OTTAWA.—The possibility of combating high prices through co-operatives is attracting increasing attention in union ranks. In Canada co-operatives are already well established among union workers in Nova Scotia and in Northern Ontario. Labor is definitely on record as endorsing the principle of co-operatives.

Recently the C.I.O. issued a special pamphlet advising its members to use co-operative ownership.

"The dollars we now spend with private corporations often go to support the people who oppose Labour's program," the CIO says. "Co-operative ownership turns that support in our direction and can put the power of big industry on our side instead of on the side of reaction."

"The produce-cheap, sell-dear policy can't be licked if we concentrate on only one side of it. It is in this search for a price program to go with our wage program that American Labour is discovering the consumer co-operative movement."

The relationship of Canadian Labour to co-operatives is the subject of a broadcast which will be released shortly in the Congress radio transcription service. Art Musgrave, Educational Director of the Ontario Co-operative Union, has this to say in the broadcast: "We co-operators are very much interested in the Labour movement. We welcome your interest in our movement. It seems to us that workers can benefit most both by getting adequate wages and by getting more for those wages through co-operative action."

Members of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers at Port Colborne and the United Steelworkers of America at Windsor are currently investigating the possibilities of starting consumer co-operatives.

Alberta Wheat Pool Hits At Grain Trade Propaganda

Calling attention to the tortuous propaganda of the Canadian grain trade, the current issue of the Alberta Wheat Pool Budget says farm people should not be led astray by "the subtle and unfounded arguments of the supporters of speculative grain marketing."

The article, in part, follows: "The passage of the years has developed a curious situation with regard to the selling of Canadian wheat. For sixteen years ago the Wheat Pools were being belabored the length and breadth of Canada by the grain trade for trying to 'hold up' the British consumers. The trade in the United Kingdom and in Europe joined in the chorus, and it was even

Wants Unity



Pres. Daniel J. Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL) told a magazine writer that "tremendous pressure" from rank-and-file unionists could bring about a unified labor movement strong enough to lick "those politicians who have tried to destroy us." (Federated Pictures).

HARRY ARCHIBALD M.P. FOR SKEENA ALBERT A VISITOR

En route to the north part of his constituency by plane, H. G. Archibald, M.P. for Skeena, had a stop over in Edmonton, on Monday of this week.

Having trained here for service in the Marine Section of the Air Force in the late war, Mr. Archibald had plenty of acquaintances to look up. "There is a definite feeling of change," he predicts. "The north is a country of wonderful future and will not be satisfied long with the limited representation it now has in the Dominion Parliament, he thinks."

The last session had many good features but to a man who has been direct in his actions and speech he finds the red tape and excessive debate more than tedious.

Mr. Archibald is one of the young and vigorous C.C.F. members elected to the House of Commons in 1945. A boilermaker by trade, resident in Prince Rupert, he is particularly fitted to represent labor in the political struggle. He was more than pleased by the fighting front put up by his colleagues, C.C.F., in the House of Commons.

stated that British millers were boycotting Canadian wheat because of the tactics of the Wheat Pools.

"The price of wheat then was about \$1.25 a bushel. At that time Great Britain was a relatively prosperous nation and the same could be said of continental Europe. Food was in fair abundance and there was no starvation in Europe."

"The Wheat Pools are now being attacked by the supporters of speculative marketing of holding down the price of Canadian wheat. They state that if Canadian wheat had brought world prices last crop year it would have meant an additional revenue

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600 Attend Meeting To Voice Anger

Hon. E. A. Ansley Defends Policy of Allowing by Corporations to Monopolize Field

STIMPFLE SPEAKS

It is not now and it never has been any part of the policy of the Social Credit government to advocate or initiate ownership and control of the natural resources of the province of Alberta by the people in the interest of people.

The foregoing is not a direct quotation but is the only possible interpretation of a statement made by Hon. E. A. Ansley to a meeting in Calmar, Friday evening, Aug. 8th.

The meeting which packed a hall to capacity, estimated at 600 men and women, gathered as a result of a call by the Farmers' Surface Rights Protective Association, to discuss the first decision given by the Board of Arbitration Right of Entry Arbitration Act. To this meeting an invitation to attend had been extended to Hon. Mr. Tanner, Minister of Land and Mines, and Hon. Earl Ansley, Minister of Education and M.L.A. for Leduc constituency. Mr. Tanner was not able to be present. Andrew Borys, President of the Association was chairman of the meeting.

Ansley Speaks

Hon. Mr. Ansley spoke for two and one-quarter hours, to explain the policy of the provincial government in respect to the oil resources of the province. Read clause by clause, and assessed as generous and proper the decision of the Board of Arbitration awarding surface damage to the owner of a particular quarter section as a result of drilling, at \$1,400.

Oil Companies Losing?

Mr. Ansley tended to play down the size and importance of the Leduc oil field. He restated the position taken by the Social Credit speakers in the election campaign of 1944, that the oil development had cost the companies millions of dollars more than their returns had been to date. He admitted later under questioning that the Imperial Oil, the only company now operating on production (Continued on Page 8)

C.N. NET EARNINGS SHOW DOWN TREND

MONTREAL.—Operating revenues for the Canadian National System, all-inclusive, for the month of May amounted to \$38,554,000. Operating expenses were \$34,250,000. The net revenue was \$4,304,000. In May, 1946, revenues were \$30,784,000; expenses, \$27,396,000; and net revenue \$3,388,000.

For the first five months of the year, operating revenues were \$174,849,000; operating expenses \$161,290,000; and net revenue \$13,559,000. The comparative figures for 1946 were: revenues \$154,554,000; expenses, \$139,404,000; and net revenue \$15,150,000.

C.C.F. Premier GIVES ACCOUNT OF Stewardship

Report of Premier T. C. Douglas
To Annual Convention of Saskatchewan



HON. T. C. DOUGLAS

HIS recent six-weeks' tour of the province had convinced him that the people of Saskatchewan are ever more enthusiastically behind the provincial government today than they were three years ago, said Premier T. C. Douglas, reporting as provincial leader to the C.C.F. convention in Saskatoon last week.

Speaking of the future, Premier Douglas said that "If we are to have more and better social services, then we must take steps to create new wealth that will belong to the people of the province and which can be used to finance ever higher standards of social security."

The full text of Premier Douglas' speech follows:

The past year has been one of activity and accomplishment for both the government and the elected members of the legislature. Not only have they attended to their executive duties, but considerable time has been devoted to keeping in touch with constituency organizations and with the public generally through conventions, public meetings and whatever other opportunities have presented themselves for keeping in touch with the people we represent.

Needs Special Care

In building the kind of democratic movement we envisage in the C.C.F. there are many practical problems which have to be worked out requiring constant consultation and co-operation.

In a people's government, the cabinet must work closely with the elected members. They must also keep in touch with the provincial executive and the provincial council. Care must always be taken to see that the elected representatives of the people, on the one hand, and the C.C.F. organization on the other, work together as a team striving for a common objective.

Every elected member must keep in mind his dual responsibility both to his own constituency convention and to the C.C.F. movement as a whole. In seeking to build a movement with grass roots, that is, a movement which is controlled from the bottom and not from the top, a great deal more care and patience must be exercised than is the case in a political party where decisions are made by a political leader and a small inner clique.

In working out these democratic techniques, I would like to pay tribute to the excellent co-operation which I have received from the president, Dr. Carlyle King, and from the provincial executive and provincial council. In spite of the fact that all of us are extremely busy, I think much misunderstanding has been avoided by the frequent consultations which take place between Mr. King and myself, and between the cabinet and the executive, and between the elected members and the provincial council.

I cannot praise too highly the harmonious relationships which have existed in spite of the many opportunities there are for misunderstandings and differences of opinion.

Our experience in the last three years has proven to me, at least, how much can be accomplished when men and women of good-will and social vision are prepared to work together, not for any selfish individual gain, but for the cause of humanity to which we in this movement have dedicated ourselves.

They're Growing

I would like at this time to pay tribute to the work of my colleagues both in the cabinet and in the caucus. When we took office three years ago many of the members had never sat in a legislative body, and none of us had ever held an executive post in any government.

During those three years I have watched some of my colleagues grow in stature with added responsibilities. I have seen this group develop from a comparatively inexperienced body of elected representatives into a body of able administrators and capable legislators. I am sure that those who have listened to the broadcasts from the legislature have been proud of the way in which your elected members have developed, not only as debaters in the legislature, but in the thorough grasp of public questions which they have shown.

These things have not been accomplished easily. Many of the cabinet ministers and private members have given of themselves without stint. They have worked long and hard to carry out and implement the program which you have laid down for them at these annual conventions.

If much has been accomplished in the past three years, and I

think it has, then the credit must go, not to any one person or to any two or three, but to the splendid team-work and to the zealous enthusiasm with which your elected representatives in the Saskatchewan legislature have tackled the assignment given to them by the people of Saskatchewan three years ago.

Co-operation

May I also express our appreciation of the help we have received from the C.C.F. provincial office and from the staff of The Commonwealth.

Moreover, I am sure I am voicing the sentiments of my colleagues when I tell you of the fine relations which exist between your provincial members and the federal group at Ottawa. Every opportunity has been taken for discussion with the federal members, and I am sure that the delegates to this convention are proud of the excellent work which has been done by our federal M.P.'s under the inspiring and able leadership of our national leader, Mr. M. J. Coldwell.

Above all, I want to thank the C.C.F. supporters throughout the province, without whose trust and encouragement my task would have been an impossible one.

Five years ago when the C.C.F. convention laid the heavy responsibility of leadership upon me, I told the delegates that I could only carry on if I had the confidence and help of every last member and supporter. When we took office three years ago, I asked for your understanding and co-operation. No person could have received more generous support than I have been given by you and those whom you represent. I want to thank you, and I am asking you to convey to the C.C.F. supporters in your respective constituencies my heartfelt thanks for the many kindnesses and expressions of confidence that have made my task easier. In some of our most difficult days your loyalty and devotion have been a source of strength and inspiration. For this I shall always be grateful.

Between Extremes

Throughout the world the forces of the extreme right and the extreme left are marshalling for what some would term "an inevitable conflict." On the one side are states which, while they enjoy political democracy, have denied their people any measure of economic democracy. On the other hand there are countries where economic democracy has been attained but where political democracy is still denied the rank and file.

Between these two extremes stand the forces of social democracy which are seeking to establish economic democracy while at the same time retaining and extending political freedoms.

It is to social democracy that most of the British Commonwealth and the Scandinavian countries are looking as the only hope of permanent world peace. Increasingly, the common people of the world over are turning to social democracy as the one hope of preventing future economic depressions and future world wars.

War of Fright

On this side of the Atlantic too

forces of reaction are staging their major campaign to maintain the status quo. In North America we are in the stage of social development that Great Britain had reached when the Baldwin government was holding office by frightening people with the fantastic stories of what would happen should a people's government come to power.

Here in Canada the Liberal party stays in office only because people are frightened. They are afraid of the economic depressions and wars which they instinctively feel are the inevitable result of continuing our present capitalist system. On the other hand, many people are even more afraid to blaze the new trails which must be pioneered if social democracy is to be established.

The function of the C.C.F. has been to dispel that fear and to persuade the Canadian people that only by far-sighted and courageous action can we prevent a recurrence of the suffering and frustration of the hungry thirties.

Here in Saskatchewan we have had the privilege of demonstrating to the rest of Canada what a people's movement can do toward establishing both social and political democracy. Three years ago the people of Saskatchewan voted by an overwhelming majority to lay the basis of a Co-operative Commonwealth.

In the past six weeks I have been in almost every part of the province and I am convinced that the people of Saskatchewan are even more enthusiastically behind this government today than they were three years ago.

Checking the Record

There were three things which we set out to do. The first was to give a greater measure of security to the farmers and workers of Saskatchewan.

The second was to provide a greater measure of social security for the aged, the widow and orphan, for the sick and underprivileged.

The third was to make a start at an industrial program that would put an economic base under our very vulnerable economy.

I am glad to be able to say that every plank of this nine-point platform on which we were elected has been implemented in whole or in part—and that in only three years.

However, this is only a beginning. While agriculture will always be the mainstay of our economy in Saskatchewan, much can still be done in the processing of our primary products and in the social development of our natural resources. During the past three years some steps have been taken in power development and in setting up a transportation system. A few minor industries have been successfully launched and important research work has been going on with a view to future industrial development.

However, our major steps still lie ahead of us and the next ten years should see some remarkable economic development in our provinces.

If we are to have more and better social services—and we are all agreed as to the need for them—then we must take steps to create new wealth that

will belong to the people of the province and which can be used to finance ever higher standards of social security.

The New Program

We are entering the end of one phase, the primary phase of establishing certain standards of security. We must now look to the second phase, that of laying the economic basis upon which a more abundant life is possible.

In seeking to build an economy which is of, for and by the people, we have no illusions about the forces we are challenging.

The forces of reaction know that if we succeed in Saskatchewan that it is only a matter of time until this movement will sweep Canada like a prairie fire. The splendid vote given to the C.C.F. candidate in Halifax the other day is an indication of the fact that a growing number of people see the C.C.F. as the only alternative to more poverty and further exploitation.

Already the old line parties are manoeuvring for some type of coalition of the forces of reaction. Not many weeks ago one of the political leaders in Saskatchewan said "There is no fundamental difference between Liberals and Conservatives." That is a conclusion some of us reached 20 years ago.

In Manitoba and British Columbia both the old line parties have amalgamated and as the Social democratic forces grow, other provinces will likely follow. We must, therefore, be prepared to stand against all-comers, convinced of the rightness of our cause and persuaded that the future is on our side.

Canadian in Nature

In 1933 when the late J. S. Woodsworth was opening the C.C.F. national convention from which came the famous Regina Manifesto, he said that when we developed Socialism in Canada, it would not speak with a Russian accent, nor an English or French accent, but that it would speak with a Canadian accent. That is what we are doing here in Saskatchewan. We are developing a brand of Canadian democratic socialism adapted to the needs and problems of our people and in keeping with the spirit and traditions of Canada.

Socialism is more than a political theory; it is a way of life. Socialism is something we must work at every day of the year.

Being a socialist involves more than voting for your convictions once every four years; it means supporting the co-operative or trade union to which you belong; it means associating yourself with every institution and organization for social justice and world brotherhood; it means devoting your life to the abolition of poverty and war in order that man may walk the earth with confidence and dignity.

In the past three years much has been done; much more remains to be done. The forces of reaction will do everything in their power to prevent us completing the task which has been so well begun. I am taking this opportunity to call upon this convention and all C.C.F. supporters everywhere to give themselves for the battle in order that selfish and vested interests may not stave off the onward march of the common people toward a better way of life.

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TOO SOON TO JUDGE

"Earl O. Shreve, president of the chamber of commerce of the United States asserted today at New Haven his belief that Soviet Russia's rejection of the Marshall Plan will be rated as the greatest single crime of totalitarianism in a class with Berlin-Moscow pact which touched off a global war."

The above statement appeared in a front page of Edmonton Bulletin of Aug. 4. No doubt other papers displayed the same statement in equally prominent places. Millions of radio listeners were treated to it from scores of stations. And millions nodded their heads more than ever assured in their already poisoned minds that the Soviet Union is "a menace to civilization." For, this was the voice of Big Business of "freedom-terprise" America. How could there be any doubt, after this? Who but a Communist would dare to contradict Mr. Shreve's statement?

Well, I am not a Communist. I still believe that in democratic countries such as our Dominion there is a way to achieve co-operative commonwealth without curtailment of those essential political freedoms which make the difference between Communism and democracy.

Believe it or not, but European Communists are in accord with the above statement. In a recent address to the nation, Communist prime minister Gattwold of Czechoslovakia said: experience and the principles of Marxism tell us that the dictatorship of the proletariat is not the only road to socialism."

These other roads to socialism can be closed only by those who mistakenly believe they can prevent socialism by destroying democracy. Where reactionary forces succeed in this respect, Communism becomes inevitable.

The greatest menace against democracy today are not communists but those powerful business interests who in their panic are blocking the ways of democracy. But, to get back to Mr. Shreve's accusation that the Soviet withdrawal from the Paris conference on the Marshall Plan is "the greatest crime."

In the first place the Russians were prepared to participate in the Marshall Plan discussions if it were to be administered by the United Nations Economic Commission.

That would have precluded the reconstruction of Europe on any design dominated by American or Russian design including features from many nations. If the U.S.A. was sincere about its concern to rebuild Europe, why did she object to U.N.O. administration?

It was obvious to the Russians that America is interested only in rebuilding Europe on a capitalist basis with private control of resources and means of production, thus making way for monopolies, speculation, underconsumption and trade wars leading to armed conflict. If that were done, then all the millions of lives lost in the imperialist wars and the two world wars would be wasted and all the lessons of history gone unheeded.

To the Russians that would be a historic crime and they refused to participate in such a plan. No one country needs assistance in reconstruction more desperately than Russia. But, they would rather suffer prolonged privation than rebuild Europe with those many features which brought about its collapse.

Russia is not alone in this respect. Only today Mrs. Bevin reported to the House of Commons that failure to socialize the industries of Germany would be a world tragedy.

The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 250 words in length.

ATTACKS CAPITALISM

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: The crisis in capitalist countries will grow with peace due to an economy that can produce abundance but restricts consumption in the interests of a monopolistic minority. The crisis causes increasing war-mongering as capitalism is prepared to go to any lengths of destruction and chaos to defend the plunder and power of a privileged few.

The chief example of this is U.S.A., greatest capitalist country which escaped the war intact while other lands were devastated. Its press, radio and certain of its politicians howl for war against former allies who bore the brunt of the war. There is much crowing from the top of a pile of atom bombs. U.S. also abets reaction the world over under the old Nazi pretext of "anti-Communism."

With this, there is attacks on the people at home, efforts to destroy basic democratic organizations, chiefly the trade unions. There is the lifting of price and rental controls, leading to general swindling with higher living costs that give less buying power, hastens crisis. This is the complements of "anti-Communism."

The "red" goey is used against all that goes for peace and prosperity, to instill fear of progress, to make it easy to put over reaction, Fascism and disaster. It comes from the same elements who gave us the "Hungry Thirties," who thought Hitler had something a decade ago and now yearn for the Fascist Fifties. They have expected the great lie factory against Soviet Russia since 1917.

Capitalism in decay grabs any kind of aid to preserve its rotten eggs and some people even try to hatch them. That is what I feel your correspondent, John F. Milner is party to when he urges that a basic tenet of the C.C.F. should be hatred of the Soviets. Surely those of us who believe in Socialism have more in common with the Soviet Union than with moribund capitalism. It is not a question of the C.C.F. adopting any Soviet model. It is that we can learn much from thirty years of Soviet Socialism.

In a recent letter, Mr. Milner cited Prime Minister Attlee on Soviet democracy. Mr. Attlee may desire democracy for the flea on the dogs back but we do not admire his use of the red herring to extenuate the bolstering by his government of Franco Spain and Fascism in Greece while hanging on to Uncle Sam's "anti-Communist" apron strings.

It is also an old canard that Communists desire "dictatorship and violence as the only way to win security." The answer to this is the present government of Czechoslovakia where Communists head the government but work in co-operation with all progress.

Besides, the Marshall Plan is only a trial balloon; it is not an offer by the U.S.A. government. What the reactionary Senate will do with the Marshall Plan involving billions of dollars is anybody's guess.

Certainly, one really has to stretch his imagination to believe that a pre-embodied "anti-red" Senate would approve American aid to the Soviet Union or nations within the Soviet influence. Instead of being saboteurs of the Marshall Plan for European recovery, it may well turn out that the Senate would approve aid to the Soviet Union or nations within the Soviet influence. Instead of being saboteurs of the Marshall Plan for European recovery, it may well turn out that the Senate would approve aid to the Soviet Union or nations within the Soviet influence.

The drama of dying capitalism is not yet finished. The meaning of such acts as the Soviet withdrawal from the Marshall Plan will be judged when the curtain comes down. Those who judge in a hurry may have to take it all back.

sive forces in the common good. What about the violence against the people of Greece, Indonesia, Indo-China and the negroes of southern U.S.A. by capitalism? Mr. Milner finally asks: "What is the Alberta C.C.F. answer?" His "Alberta C.C.F." is a group of disruptors expelled from the C.C.F. in Calgary, egotistical opportunists who tried to wreck the C.C.F. and are to oppose official C.C.F. candidates in future elections. I read their miserable little tract with: "The L.P.P. are the real winners. Communists are playing a heavy role in C.C.F. disruption." Such politronery deserves no answer coming from the very disruptors whom the C.C.F. well rid of. It is typical of this "anti-Communist" mentality.

Yours truly,
James Leslie.
North Edmonton, Alta.

Re: Y.E.

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: In your copy of July 26th you print a letter contribution signed Y.E., written for the purpose of persuading your readers that the rest of the world has nothing to fear from Communism.

Whoever he is he must feel he knows more about Communist ambitions and intentions than do the pole of the world at large. He says "The Communists of Russia are too wise to start another war and he assures us that 'we have nothing to fear from them in this regard'."

Let us remember that "The Communists" of Russia are believed to be now only about four million in number in population of about 200 million.

We all hope that Y.E. knows what he is talking about and that the intentions of his words are honest.

We all hope that the American Chief of Staff Eisenhower is a foolish alarmist when he warns the world of a possible Communist aggression in the near future. Unfortunately facts are not on the side of Y.E.

The forces over which Eisenhower now presides are a mere skeleton of their war time strength.

The Soviet Union is still believed to have four and a half million men under arms strategically placed on her eastern and western frontiers. She is believed to be in the position to increase her striking force to 10 1/2 million trained men within thirty days.

The United States have about one million in their army at present, one half of whom are said to be raw recruits.

The British Isles have reduced their armed forces down to a million and a quarter men and some of the peaceably minded people of Britain have been agitating for an even greater reduction. The latest news is that on account of a currency crisis brought about by the selfish economic policy of the United States, the British army has got to be reduced for the sake of economy regardless of the danger so incurred.

In contradiction to the whole column of propaganda that you print over the signature Y.E. in your open forum it would appear to me that the truth about the nations that he condemns as warmongers with hostile intentions against the Soviet Union is that they are peace assuming lunatics in line with the old saying that 'Who the gods wish to destroy they first drive mad'.

It would be interesting to know who Y.E. is and what his life antecedents.

People who write the kind of stuff he writes should be willing to sign their names.

JOHN F. MILNER

Fullis.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

(Continued on page 5)



H. ZELLA SPENCER

IT is true there are many grave problems in the world today and we may or may not give time and thought to them. However, I think it highly probable that the subject most often mentioned in rural Alberta for some time past has been that of rain—or to be more correct, in most places it is the lack of it. There seems little disagreement in opinion about the situation.

I often say it is something for which political parties cannot blame each other. It is nothing that can be promised as a vote-catcher. We have had other promises about as impossible of achievement which people seemed to find an attractive lure, but as yet the control of rainfall has not been adopted as any party platform. To be sure if we used as little co-operative sense, as little sense of planning regarding the need and use of it as we do about so many of Nature's gifts, there are many who would not find the situation improved.

But surely the city people cannot quite appreciate what it is to be so directly dependent on it. In this an agricultural Province, naturally the whole economic life is affected. Towns without any particular industry other than supplying the various needs and marketing for the farmer feel it almost as much, although a direct blow is usually surer than an indirect one.

But what person in the country has not looked anxiously at the sky or, in these later days, listened on the radio, for a promise of rain? Who has not anxiously watched the sky to see if the rain clouds would "go round" or really materialize as rain? Unfortunately most of us have often seen the former happen and we have seen the result.

We have seen a parched-looking countryside. We have seen our crops stunted and sparse, our gardens wither. Too many have known the unfortunate results. It may have been the trip back home

postponed and postponed until the dear ones were there no longer to welcome them, or boys and girls unable to go away for their studies, yet the years went on and they grew older. Or some labor-saving devices inside the house or outside are still dreams of the future. Instead of these, a debt mounting higher and higher. Sometimes it seems as though pangs of praise should be sung to many of those who have gone on continuing to do their best for their families, to those who have "done without", to those who have made the most of things when Nature has seemed to be cruel.

This year has been one of those when the rainfall has been too scanty in many places. To some it is a repeating of an experience; to other young people starting out in life together it may be their first. To all our sympathy.

And we can at least be grateful we are learning to farm to better conserve the moisture. And even be grateful that there have been few trips over mud-roads that were greasy!

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LABOR DIRECTORY

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Brewery, Meat, Cereal & Soft Drink Workers of America No. 1040
Ed. Wednesday in Labor Hall, President, D. O. Roberts, 9611 53rd Avenue.
Soft Drink Branch Secretary, Gold Dahl, Armitage, phone 32916; Secy., Treasurer, Phone 10831, 15th Street, phone 11007. Deliveries delegate, J. Lindsay, 1874 6th Street, phone 11041.
Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 1325, Edmonton, Alta., United Brotherhood M.-Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays in the Labor Temple, President, J. A. President, Tom Steele, 9614 103th St., Edmonton; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Secy., L. H. Pollard, 9235 101A Ave., Rec.-Secy., W. G. Stanton, 12083 74 Street; Treasurer, J. A. S. Smith, 18132 35A Street; Business Agent, J. P. Caze, Labor Temple.
Cement Workers of America No. 121, United—Meets second Wednesday in each month in Labor Hall, President Percy Williamson, 8418 102A Ave., Recording Secretary, Alberta Wheat ton, 11524 87th Street.
Fire Fighters No. 208, International Association—Meets No. 2 Fire Hall, President, Tom Steele, 9614 103th St., Edmonton; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Young, 12111 Jasper Ave., Edmonton.

Planned Community



This traveling pantry is one of 16 co-op enterprises at Greenbelt, Md., a federally-owned planned community which started out as an experiment in the early days of the late Pres. Roosevelt's New Deal and is now a flourishing town of 7,500 persons celebrating its 10th anniversary. The pantry brings frozen foods, canned goods and vegetables to the door. (Federated Pictures).

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**LACOMBE PICNIC
DRAWS BIG CROWD**

The Lacombe constituency C.C.F. Association picnic at Brewer's Beach, Gull Lake, on Sunday afternoon was largely attended. The meeting was to have been addressed by A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A. Because of the death of his father, Mr. Liesemer was unable to attend.

Ernie Cook, Prov. President, substituted for Mr. Liesemer.

A picnic of the Rocky Mountain House constituency called for Saturday afternoon was rained out.

A farmer was plowing a field with one horse, but he kept yelling: "Giddap, Jack! Giddap, Jerry! Giddap, Casey!"

Finally someone standing near asked, "Why does your horse have three names?"

The farmer replied, "I put blinders on him and yell three names so he'll think he has two other horses helping him."

The turtle is the only animal on earth that can draw itself up until it is completely surrounded by its ribs.

that our daily papers and our flag-waving Tories of all parties have nothing but dirt for Britain now. Well the little Old Country has beaten its enemies of one kind or another before. It will win the battle with the Tories, too.

L. C. McGregor.

Edmonton.

**TORY PROGRAM IS
NOW MADE PUBLIC**

OTTAWA—Who says the Tories in Canada haven't got a program? An article in the July issue of "Canadian Business" by Geoffrey Hewelcke, editor of the Progressive-Conservative paper, "Public Opinion", makes their party objective clear. The article is entitled:

"Let's Fight for Profits!"

The prodigal son had returned. "Father," he inquired, "are you going to kill the fatted calf?"

"No," answered the old man, looking the youth over carefully. "No, I'll let you live. But I'll put you to work and train a lot of that fat off."

**FATHER OF C.C.F.
MEMBER PASSES**

C.C.F. supporters and other friends of A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., will be sorry to hear of the death of his father which occurred last Saturday.

Mr. Liesemer was a pioneer of the Didsbury district where interment took place on Monday. Funeral services were held in Calgary.

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**SEE FRIDAY'S DAILY
PAPERS
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NEWS**

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The People Speak

(Continued from Page 3)

WILL LOSE DEPOSITS.

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I am glad you printed in your paper the article from the Country Guide which I had already read in that paper. I was especially interested because I have a relative in Manitoba who is now getting electricity on his farm. And are they ever enjoying it!

When the Alberta voters were scared away from the C.C.F. in 1944 they voted against having electricity in their farm homes. But I don't think they'll be scared next time. Not after the good record of the C.C.F. government in Saskatchewan. That government has done more in three years than the Social Credit government has done in twelve years. A lot more.

Where I live, near the Saskatchewan border, it makes us laugh to hear the Social Crediters talk about running candidates in the next election in Saskatchewan. If they do I'd be prepared to bet they will all lose their deposits.

SASKALTA.

Butze, Alberta.

MOUTHPIECE OF PEOPLE

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I wish to commend the People's Weekly and the C.C.F. for the fight it is putting up on behalf of the people of Alberta in the matter of the oil resources. Everybody else seems quite willing to see our "heritage" handed over to Standard Oil and the other monopolists.

It isn't only in connection with oil, but in every question in which the people's interests are at stake that we've come to expect the People's Weekly and the C.C.F. to be on the people's side. And as I talk to city workers and farmers I find that the people are beginning to realize that the C.C.F. is their mouthpiece, saying the things they would say themselves.

I. F. JOHNSON.

Edmonton.

BRITAIN'S BATTLE

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I wish a copy of last week's People's Weekly could have been given to every Canadian citizen so that they could get the real story of Britain from such an reliable as Michael Foot's. It did my heart good to read Mr. Foot's refutation of the despicable Tory propaganda against Britain. Goodness knows we have lots of it in this country. Too bad we couldn't have some Michael Foot's here to combat it.

Tories are the same wherever you find them. They are the super patriots if things are going their way. They are ready to damage their country in the eyes of the world if they lose some of their ill-gotten privileges. Even in Canada it is noticeable

To The Man on The Land



**"A
Personal
Message"**

This is a request for greater support
for Alberta-Pool Elevators in the 1947-48
crop year.

The Alberta Wheat Pool is an Alberta farmers' co-operative organization. It happens that I am chairman of the board of directors. I am a working farmer like yourself. Having been chosen to head this organization, I am doing my best to make it a success.

Every bushel of grain delivered to an Alberta Pool Elevator makes an important contribution to the farm co-operative movement.

The farm co-operative movement is the greatest and most effective effort in self-help.

If you are not a patron of Alberta Pool Elevators, I ask you to be one. If at all possible, deliver your grain this season to a Pool elevator. Let us make this Alberta grain co-operative an outstanding success and a monument to the enterprise, solidarity and co-operative spirit of Alberta farmers.

BEN S. PLUMER,
Chairman, Board of Directors,
ALBERTA WHEAT POOL.

Alberta Pool Elevators

For 1/8 of the Crop

Radio Address by Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A. Provincial Leader

Suppose you owned a farm. Or maybe you do own a farm. And suppose you wanted to rent it. You'd expect to get at least one-third of the crop as rent. Under no circumstances would you take less than one-quarter.

But suppose you had an agent looking after it for you, and he rented it to a fellow from the United States for one-eighth of the crop. You'd be pretty hot about it, wouldn't you?

Well, that's exactly what is happening to you. Your agent, the government you elected in 1944, is letting foreign companies have your valuable oil properties for one-eighth of the crop.

Holes in the Ground

But that isn't the whole story. If you rented your farm you'd expect at the end of the rental period to get it back again in rentably good productive shape. In fact that would be part of the bargain. But when your agent, the government, rents your oil resources to a foreign corporation you won't get anything back when the corporation is through with it. Nothing but a lot of empty holes in the ground.

Yes, that is the story of what is happening to your valuable oil resources. You're getting one-eighth of the crop. Not only so, but out of your share you have to pay a big share of the expenses. You provide an expensive administration of the resources and you build roads and other public services which are used by the fellows who get seven-eighths of the crop. And you'll be left with a lot of empty holes in the ground.

In the 1944 provincial election the C.C.F. tried to call public at-

tention to what was going on. But it didn't seem important then. Turner Valley was petering out and it wasn't much of an oil field anyway. It only paid the oil companies twenty million dollars or so in net profits. Just peanuts compared to what we have now.

They Electioneered

But even so, in 1944 some of the oil companies paid for page advertisements in the newspapers to help to defeat the C.C.F. and elect the present government.

It paid off for them, too. Now we have one of the major oil fields on the North American continent and the harvest is going to be good. And they get seven-eighths of the crop and you get one-eighth and you have to pay a lot of the expenses. And it's all because the agent you picked in 1944, the Social Credit government, has sold you out. They've rented your oil lands for a pittance and when the corporations are through with them, and all the oil is gone, you can have them back, with all the nice straight mile-deep holes in the ground.

Biggest Handouts

A couple of weeks ago I quoted from a strictly non-partisan and independent farm paper, the Farm and Ranch Review, showing that in the areas where exploratory activity is now going on the ownership of the crown lands has passed into the hands of a few large corporations, mostly foreign. The Farm and Ranch Review said further that grants made by the Alberta government to foreign corporations were greater in area than are obtainable anywhere in the United States and compare with the great concessions that dictator governments have issued in South America, in Africa and in Mexico.

In the 1947 session of the legislature, before it became generally known that we had a major oil field in the Leduc area, Mr. Liesemer and I urged that in any field where exploration was being carried on there should be reserved for the people, and developed by public ownership after the field was proven, checkerboarded areas equal in size to those leased to private individuals or corporations.

And the answer we got from the government was: "What the honorable members are talking about is the C.C.F. policy. It is not our policy. The government believes in development by private enterprise." We might have added, "and how!"

Well, that's the sort of deal your agent, the government, has made for you. There's only one remedy: get another agent, the C.C.F. which believes that the people, whose heritage the oil resources are, should get at least an even break with foreign oil companies.



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CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

--- VS. DORIS FRENCH

Exception has been taken by the Canadian Association of Broadcasters to an article by Doris French, Ottawa correspondent of the People's Weekly, on the case of the C.A.B. as presented to the special parliamentary committee on radio.

To present the case fairly we print below the letter from Mr. H. S. Dawson, manager of C.A.B. and comment on it by Mrs. French.

C.A.B. LETTER

The Editor, "The People's Weekly", Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Sir: The Canadian Association of Broadcasters trusts we may count upon your fairness to correct certain statements in an article appearing in "The People's Weekly" of June 14, under by-line of Doris French.

This article credits information concerning sponsorship of a survey tabulation presented to the Parliamentary Radio Committee as being given "when M. J. Caldwell ... succeeded in pinning down Joseph Sedgwick, K.C., who presented a brief on behalf of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters." The first part of this sentence is in error.

Reference to Page 159 of Radio Committee official published proceedings shows that the information in question was given by Mr. Walter Elliott, President of Elliott-Haynes Limited, the firm which took the survey. Mr. Sedgwick, who did present this association's brief, did not give and could not have given, any information concerning its sponsorship.

Claims Unfairness

The inference given in the article is completely untrue and unfair. Reference to the official published proceedings (Page 159) shows that Mr. E. G. Hansell, M.P. asked: "I would like to ask Mr. Elliott if he represents the C.A.B.; and, if his organization is an independent organization and at the disposal of anyone who wants to use it." To this, Mr. Elliott is shown as replying: "The answer to the first question is, no, we do not represent the C.A.B. The answer to the second question is, yes, we are a group at the disposal of anyone." Immediately following, the official proceedings read:

Mr. Caldwell: Did anyone pay for this particular survey?
Mr. Elliott: Yes, sir.
Mr. Caldwell: Would you like to tell us who paid for it?
Mr. Elliott: Yes, I will give that in the first part of my talk.
Mr. Caldwell: I would like to have the answer now for the record.
The Chairman: Mr. Elliott, Mr. Caldwell was the answer now for the record, that question is in order.

Mr. Elliott: Very well, sir ... (and at this point gave the complete information referred to in the Doris French article). It will be seen from these direct quotes taken from official published Committee proceedings that Mr. Elliott was presenting the survey, not Mr. Sedgwick, and that our own counsel was not even on the witness stand at the time.

Says Not Sold to Highest Bidder The article in question goes on to say: "The objective is more commercial radio of the sort prevailing in the United States"; then adds a reference to time periods "sold to the highest bidder." Again, both these statements are untrue. The objective was quite clearly stated in the Canadian Association of Broadcasters brief, now a matter of public record. It consisted of: (a) the established right to freedom of expression on the air, similar to that now enjoyed by press, church, and public meetings (for CBC and independent stations alike); (b) exercise of necessary licensing and regulatory powers in both radio and broadcasting fields by an impartial, semi-judicial body more directly responsible to the people's

type of questions asked. I do not think that this is of any value ...

Quotes Dutton

For the rest of the protests made by C.A.B. in your letter, I have no apologies to offer. It is a well-known fact that private stations are more concerned with commercial programs than with public service features. I will quote A. D. Dutton, CBC Chairman of the Board of Governors, before the committee (page 480): "We do see in fact some danger to freedom of speech on the air through inadequate opportunities given by private station operators for the expression of opinions on the air channels they control."

"The following, for instance, is from a letter received from station CFCN, Calgary. This station is a prominent member of the C.A.B., the most powerful private station west of Winnipeg, and its representatives before the committee last year spoke boldly about freedom of the air for the people of Alberta." The letter said:

"As CBC regulations require a station to sell time to all groups, if they sell to any (distribute time fairly), we have discontinued selling time between elections for political parties, because about the only people who would spend money 52 weeks in the year belonged to some 'ism' or other."

Wants No "isms"

This prominent private station discontinued selling political time, because the CBC regulation requiring fair treatment to all would make it necessary to sell time to people whom the station regards contemptuously as supporting an "ism."

Figures were required from Mr. Sedgwick during the committee's hearings, to compare the amount of commercial broadcasting by CBC networks and by private stations during a typical week. This showed the CBC using 30.82% commercial, to the private stations (CPB, Toronto) 53.44%. I think it is an obvious assumption that if CBC regulations did not insist on public service features, the percentage of commercial time on private stations would be higher than this.

The phrase I used "time sold to the highest bidder", therefore makes good sense. Commercial broadcasts are "paid for" by people with money. An example is the advertising program put on by the "Income Taxpayers' Association", to which the Co-operative Associations of Canada were unable to reply for lack of funds.

C.A.B. Objective

I said that the objective of the C.A.B. was commercial broadcasts similar to those in the United States. This is fully substantiated in the proceedings of the parliamentary committee. C.A.B. was asking for an independent network, of privately owned stations. They urged that the government control over this network would be "not unlike the F.C.C. exercised in the United States." They said that the network "would give its key to success ... in the American network shows." (page 179).

Your letter from the C.A.B. denies that they were demanding "freedom from government regulation", as my article stated. Yet a very large part of their brief, and a dominant point in their nationwide advertising campaign, was for relief from regulation "by the government of the day."

An to a relation between the C.A.B. brief and the Elliott-Haynes survey, and the radio survey conducted in Toronto on "left-wing" broadcasts, I did not indicate any direct link, but I did say, and I think it an entirely justified statement, that all were "part of the same organized campaign against the CBC."

Free Time

Time is provided free by sixty-seven independent stations for regular broadcasts by nearly all members of parliament while that body is in session. This includes members of all parties. Some stations provide free time for provincial and municipal members. Moreover, the CBC broadcasts referred to in the article are released in the main by independent stations—frequently thirty, forty or more, as compared to released by eight or nine CBC stations.

As most people in the political field know, broadcasting stations apportion time as equally as possible between parties at election time; or between the contenders in matters of dispute within a specific area. The time is not sold to the highest bidder, but sold at published rates, available to all, and apportioned fairly between the parties concerned.

The Doris French article leaves the inference that the Canadian Association of Broadcasters pays for or is connected with a "checking" of CBC commentators (whose broadcasts are released largely by independent stations). This is not true. This Association does not "check" any speeches, on CBC or elsewhere; it does not employ anyone to do so, has not made the attempt; has no knowledge of it being done.

We trust we can count upon your fairness to bring these corrections of fact before your readers.

Very truly yours,

H. S. DAWSON.

COMMENT BY DORIS FRENCH

I acknowledge an error in my C.P.A. report which the C.A.B. has pointed out: I attributed some evidence before the committee to Mr. Sedgwick, counsel for C.A.B., which was actually given by Mr. Elliott, president of Elliott-Haynes Limited. I think the mistake was pardonable in that the survey, far from being "independent" of C.A.B., was referred to by some M.P.'s on the committee as the "Sedgwick survey." In the C.A.B. brief, which was printed for wholesale distribution some time in advance of the hearing, the Elliott-Haynes survey is appended, and the brief states that the survey is given "in sequel to the brief." At the hearing, Mr. Sedgwick concluded his reading of the brief with these words: "It was the intention of C.A.B. and it is still our hope that we will be able to have Mr. Elliott present his study to this committee." The brief also states definitely, "we have asked Mr. Walter Elliott, whose firm is responsible for these studies, to present his findings to you as part of our brief."

At Request of C.A.B.

This survey, which was the main point in my article, was the obvious inducement to the evidence before the committee at the request of C.A.B. Of the survey itself (paid for by Imperial Oil, Aluminum Limited, Canadian Industries Limited, Canadian General Electric and Northern Electric) M. J. Caldwell said in committee (page 186 of the proceedings):

"It was done with the purpose not only of getting the results that were obtained but of doing propaganda work, which is obvious from the manner in which the questions were asked and from

Bit of Nonsense

White-bearded Andre Berillon, of Paris, backed by the 41 textbooks on hypnosis and psychotherapy which he has written in his 87 years, says "that by hypnosis he can cure almost anything."

Could he cure a drunkard that way?

Replied Berillon: "I treated an alcoholic only once. I put him to sleep and in his trance made him hold up his right hand, swear never again to use it to touch a glass containing alcohol."

"The patient returned two days later, saying: 'Doctor, I find I cannot use my right hand to drink with, but my left hand picks up a glass quite freely. Could you do something about it, as anyway I am lethargic.'"

"To repair this oversight, I hypnotized the patient and made him repeat the formula for his left hand."

"But next week my sister told me she had seen my patient in a bar, drinking through a straw. Ever since, I have left alcoholics alone."—Time Magazine.

The man who pokes fun at a woman trying to drive through a 12-foot garage door usually sobers up when he tries to thread a needle.

C.C.F. RADIO TALKS
Grande Prairie, CFP,
7:15 p.m. Wednesday.
Edmonton, CJA, 10:15 p.m.
Saturday.
Calgary, CFAC, 6:15 p.m.
Saturday.
Lethbridge, CJOC, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday.
Invite your friends and neighbors to listen in to these five-minute talks each week.

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New Ridings

(Continued from page 1)

east, "will make it practically impossible for an able critic of the government to come back to this House."

Protests

Even C.C.F. and Social Credit members were moved to protest the ruthless damage to Conservative chances. The all-party subcommittee for the Saskatchewan redistribution washed its linen in the Commons chamber, when Walter Tucker, ponderous Liberal leader for that province, clashed with Diefenbaker. Percy Wright (C.C.F., Melfort) third member of the committee, took a referee's position to describe how the Saskatchewan changes had been made. A map, revising the constituencies was brought in by the Liberals, and the sub-committee got very little opportunity to suggest changes, Wright said.

"Obviously the main purpose of redistribution in that province was to strengthen the two remaining Liberal seats at the expense of the one remaining Conservative seat. After that was done the Liberals didn't much care what happened to the rest of the province," Wright said.

Ignore People's Wishes

"But what would have happened if the Conservatives had been in power? Exactly the opposite. No one seemed to be much concerned with the wishes of the people who live in the constituencies. The C.C.F. was able to make one change in the south, dividing Maple Creek from Swift Current by an east-and-west boundary instead of a north-and-south boundary, to allow those constituencies to follow the line of the railways and roads."

"This debate strengthens the contention of the C.C.F. party that redistribution should be taken out of the hands of Parliament and dealt with by an independent committee. 'Time after time we've seen whoever was in power tilt the other fellow's throat, while he howled to high heaven. Then when the other fellow gets in the process is reversed.'"

Gerrymandered

The B.C. constituency of Kamloops, held by P.-C. member E. D. Fulton (national president of the Young Progressive-Conservatives) and the constituency of Muskoka-Ontario, held by P.-C. member J. M. Macdonnell (national president of the Progressive Conservative Association) are both "gerrymandered" beyond recognition by the new boundary lines. Two of the three Conservative seats in Manitoba, Neepawa (held by Bracken) and Portage la Prairie (held by a new P.-C. member, C. C. Miller) are to be combined in one new riding. Both these seats turned from the Liberals to the Tories during recent years. Finally, the 300,000 square miles of Mackenzie in the north is to be added to the 200,000 square miles of Yukon constituency (represented by George Black, P.-C.) making an extraordinarily large area almost impossible of access for election purposes.

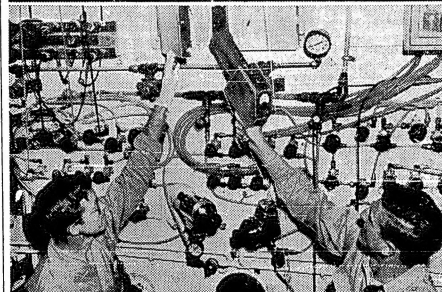
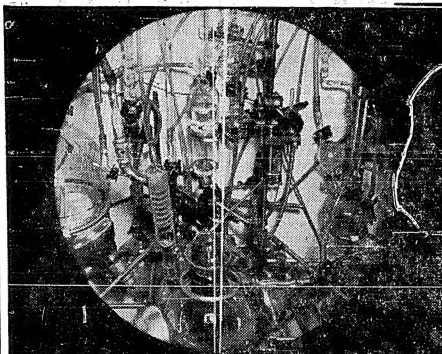
Changes in the representation from the provinces, based on population shifts, will be as follows:

Province	Old	New
Ontario	82	83
Quebec	65	73
Nova Scotia	12	13
New Brunswick	10	10
Prince Edward Island	4	4
Manitoba	17	16
Saskatchewan	21	20
Alberta	17	17
British Columbia	16	18
Yukon	1	1
	245	255

At present the 245 Commons seats are held by the parties as follows:

Liberals	127
Conservatives	67
C.C.F.	28
Social Credit	13
Independents	7
Blou Populaire	9
Union des Electeurs	1
	245

Atomic Energy Works For Health



Plants which produced the atomic bomb and brought wartime destruction are now making radioisotopes that may prolong the lives of millions. Radioactivated Carbon 14, used in medical research, and which formerly cost about \$1,000,000 per unit, now costs \$50 for the same amount manufactured in the uranium pile at Oak Ridge, Tenn. Top, the inside of a "hot cell" is seen through a periscope. Bottom, workers check the radiation emitted through an opening with an instrument called a "cutie pie." (Federated Pictures).

SAVINGS BACKLOG ABOUT USED UP

By LORNE INGLE

OTTAWA—(CFA)—During the war we heard a good deal about the tremendous backlog of demand that was being built up through forced savings, government bonds, etc. What has happened to this great reserve of purchasing power?

Some information on the question has come to light in an extensive Survey of Consumer Finances recently undertaken in the United States for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve (Banking) System. The following is an extract from their conclusions, published in the June issue of the Federal Reserve Bulletin:

Some consumer units, particularly those in lower-income brackets whose income status had remained unchanged, showed weaker financial positions at the beginning of 1947 than at the beginning of 1946. Price increases during 1946 reduced the effective purchasing power of their incomes and of such savings as they had, and there was frequent spending of liquid asset holdings by lower-income groups during 1946 for regular living expenses and medical care."

What this means in less technical language is that the small savings which people had put aside during the war for "a rainy day" have already been used up for ordinary living expenses. The Victory Bonds, which, it was hoped, would help tide them over such possible future calamities as illness and unemployment have had to be spent in paying higher prices for food, clothing and rent. The question might well be asked, "Who's got those savings now?"

In the quiet of a dark cloudy night, two safe-robbers were preparing to open the safe of a bank in a small town. This would be the climax in a series of bank robberies in the whole surrounding area.

One of the thugs approached the safe, sat down on the floor and took off his shoes and socks. Then he started to turn the dial of the safe with his toes.

"What's the matter with you? Are you crazy? Let's open this thing and get out of here," said the partner.

"Naw, it'll only take a minute longer this way," replied the first, "and we'll drive them fingerprint experts nuts."

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PERSONAL STUFF See Further

(Continued from page 1)

I don't know what the exact score is, but on the night I was there I would say the males were outnumbered at least six to four. That's probably because women have a greater sense of responsibility in such matters. I don't think it's because the men don't want to do it. It's just that they put it off. It's like owing a fifty-cent debt. Nobody worries much about a fifty-cent debt. It's easy to overlook it. Now if it were a \$100 debt—well, the old man would worry about that and couldn't rest until it was paid. Suppose there is really no one who isn't willing to give a little blood which may save some other fellow's life. And it's only a little they take now, 320cc I think it is. They took more during the war. And it takes less than an hour of a fellow's time, and it is up the evening. So any difficulty there may be in getting enough donors is due to a lot of fellows just putting it off, or not thinking about it.

* * *

One of the donors last Thursday was Mrs. John Gow, one of the very best of our Edmonton C.C.F. women. I think Mrs. Gow would no doubt have been there anyway, but she has had reason to know what it will mean to somebody to get blood which she may have donated. When John Gow himself was very ill he had to have blood. And it cost them \$25.00 for each transfusion. You can't pay that much out every day on top of a hospital bill for very long without feeling it. So they know what it will mean for some father or mother or youngster to get blood free. But of course people like the Gows are always looking for ways in which they can do some good to somebody. They're built that way. God bless them!

* * *

The greatness of the Red Cross is in providing the medium through which people can perform the neighborly act of giving their blood to save a neighbor's life. Only a big national organization could do it. It is a tremendous undertaking. Each clinic must be staffed with highly-trained technicians and nurses. The team which is getting the Edmonton centre under way is made up of young women from every province, with two or three from Britain who worked with Dr. Stanbury over there. It is a highly efficient set-up, carrying the most modern techniques into the community hall or schoolhouse where the mobile clinic collects the blood. The laboratories and processing plant in Edmonton are the very last word in technical equipment and skillful operation. It is a costly business, of course, and when the clinics are in operation in every province the annual budget will probably run to a couple of million dollars. But what's that? About fifteen cents per capita of the Canadian population. In war the work of the Red Cross was as vital as any part of the war effort. In peace it aims to occupy an equally important place in the life of the nation. The blood transfusion service alone would establish its right to expect the support of every Canadian.

(Continued from Page 1)

the same budget, an increase of 65 per cent.

The United Welfare Chest in Toronto reports that a minimum budget which cost \$28.35 a week in 1929 reached \$40.11 by May. Since May cost of a number of items have increased and still further increases are coming.

Flour Next

One of the most serious advances in living costs which Canadians now face will result from the government's decision to wipe out a \$25,000,000 subsidy on flour milled for domestic consumption. Such action inevitably means an increase in bread prices. Impact of higher bread and flour prices will be particularly severe because of the manner in which many Canadians have been forced to cut down their purchases of more highly nutritional foods, such as vegetables, fruits and dairy products, and use more economical starches.

The Toronto Welfare Chest estimates average weekly requirements of a family of five at 10½ loaves of bread and 5½ pounds of cereal. Predictions are that price increases in this field will up the family budget by about \$1.30 a week.

Price ceilings are also expected to be lifted on meat with the possibility that prices may advance 25 per cent. That would mean a meat budget of \$4.25 would go up \$1.12. Probably coupled with a lifting of meat ceilings will be removal of ceilings on hides and leather, resulting in higher shoe prices.

An end to ceilings on textiles is predicted for October. Welfare officials say their budgets allow only an absolute minimum of clothing and higher clothing prices would have to be met by curtailing food purchases.

All this points to the Congress contention that wages must be increased and prices lowered if Canadian living standards are to be maintained.

Alberta Wheat

(Continued from page 1)

of from \$100 million to \$125 million for wheat producers.

Sought Floor Price

"Farm people should not be led astray by the subtle and unfounded arguments of the supporters of speculative grain marketing. What the Wheat Pools sought from the federal government was a floor price for wheat existing over a period of years. In that they were supported by virtually every farm organization, as well as other groups of public men.

"The long history of grain marketing in Western Canada shows that speculation gives no stability. It is built upon the vagaries of a great host of small speculators who hopelessly engage in a gamble in which the most of them are bound to lose in the end. It plunges the wheat producers into a wild whirling of price variations, with continual uncertainty and anxiety.

"The Wheat Pools, as mentioned before, desired a floor price

for wheat. In order to provide same the federal government entered into a forward contract with Britain to deliver 600 million bushels of wheat over a four-year period at bottom prices ranging from \$5.55 to \$1.00 a bushel. On the basis of this contract the federal government guaranteed to the producer a bottom price of \$1.35 a bushel up until July 31, 1950. Wheat is sold in Canada for domestic consumption on the same basis. Other countries importing Canadian wheat pay going world prices.

Can't Pay More

"The United Kingdom is in no financial shape to pay higher prices for imported wheat. To be frank, the United Kingdom is on the verge of financial bankruptcy, and it is probable that the grain Canada is now selling to her on credit will eventually be paid for out of the Dominion treasury. The British, proud of their high position in the pre-war world, may not like this statement but it is the truth.

"Under such circumstances there is something to be said in favor of a larger payment for wheat out of the Dominion treasury. This can readily be done without the resumption of speculative marketing. But to ask Britain, in the face of the terrible economic crisis in which that country now finds itself, to pay more for wheat, is to assume a position of avarice and greed such as certainly has not been characteristic of Canadians in the past.

"Tear-Jerkers" at Work

"In this country it is interesting to note the attitude of a certain grain trade propagandist. One week he writes "tear-jerkers" about the unfortunate British and the next week he is trying to soak them \$2.63 a bushel for the wheat they need in order to keep alive.

"Farmers should not forget that the British wheat market is the most important in the world, that the British will be wheat buyers for generations to come, and that Canada, through fair dealing, should be in a position to take the inside track on that vital market.

"All this talk about the loss of \$100 million, while sensational, is unconvincing. There has been no such loss. The federal treasury, which is supplying the funds to purchase Canadian wheat for export, can at any time increase the funds in its custody. The Wheat Board available for eventual distribution to the farmers. The Wheat Pools are quite agreeable and even anxious to join in any nation-wide campaign to have such funds increased. Of course, the Canadian taxpayer will have to foot the bill, but the contribution western agriculture has made to the war effort and to the general welfare of the nation has earned the right of further financial consideration. Eastern financial interests, now siding with the speculative marketing propagandists, seem to have no objection to such a proposal. It should gain general acceptance throughout Canada.

"But the Wheat Pools, who never in all their history tried to gouge the British consumers, even when that nation was prosperous, certainly do not believe the British people, now passing through economic Gethsemane, should be called upon to stretch their limited resources further."

Farmers Protest

(Continued from page 1)

duction in the field, had made over-all profits from the oil industry, but insisted that the Department of Lands and Mines were able to verify the position that generally less had been returned than had been spent.

Royalty Too High?

He contended that 12½ per cent constituted a heavy tax on production. That is the amount of the royalty presently collected. "A great many of you will have no reason to be interested in this quotation at all," he said, "because the field is not going to extend any great distance."

The Farmer's Surface Rights Protective Association is working in conjunction with the A.F.U. to protect the rights of the farmers on whose land drilling occurs, the mineral rights to which are vested in the Crown and have been leased to the oil companies. The meeting was one of a series called to try to find some formula or basis for settlement, fair to the farmer, and having due regard to the size of the field and its revenue possibilities.

A.F.U. Program

R. H. Boutillier, Secretary of the A.F.U., who followed Mr. Ansley, quoted directly from the Farmers' Action programme booklet in its final paragraph which reads in part: "We herewith reiterate our long established policy, that the natural resources of the province and the nation are the heritage of the people, and therefore, remain in the ownership of the people and be operated in the interests of the people with at all times due consideration to preservation of such natural resources for the benefit of future generations . . ."

Mr. Boutillier stopped quoting at this point and a matter of privilege Mr. Ansley read the rest, after claiming that if what had been read by Mr. Boutillier was the policy of the A.F.U., he, Mr. Ansley, did not know it.

The rest of the quotation says: "and further that public utilities used by all the people, such as banks, publicly-used transportation, and electrical services should be owned by the people and operated for the service of the people. We believe that in the achievement of Parity and the building of an equitable state of society, co-operation is essential."

Challenged by Ansley

The inference Mr. Ansley was that oil was not mentioned and so was not properly part of the resources.

Mr. Ansley suggested that Mr. Boutillier, Secretary, and Mr. Stimpfle, president of the A.F.U., were introducing political propaganda and suggesting a platform of a political party. He said "if that is the programme of the A.F.U. it is the first time I knew it."

Mr. Stimpfle in reply pointed out that this was the decision of the A.F.U. convention three years ago before either himself or Mr. Boutillier held office. They now held. The booklet carries the name of H. E. Nichols, now a propaganda employee of the Social Credit government and Mr. Stimpfle said Mr. Nichols was a member of the committee set up by the convention to draw up the program.

Not S.C. Program

When a member of the audience rose to say that the very same position had been part of the programme outlined by Mr. Aberhart in 1936, that from such natural resources was to come the national dividend, Mr. Ansley took the opportunity to publicly deny that ownership and operation by the people in the interests of the people had ever been or was now a part of the policy of Social Credit. Social Credit, he said, believed in Free Private Enterprise through financial instruments alone proposed to distribute the natural heritage of the people.

"There is no Social Credit in Alberta yet," said Mr. Ansley, "although we have shown by our legislative Acts how it

may be done. The Dominion of Canada, the Supreme Court and the Privy Council have denied these acts as within the jurisdiction of the province."

Tired Of It

C. J. Stimpfle, President of the A.F.U., opened his remarks by saying he was tired of hearing of the poor little oil companies, the poor little railway companies, and the poor little machine companies. He said that when the farmers had gone on strike last year they had been accused of starving the children and families of Europe by withholding food, but on a recent visit to the Leduc oil field he had observed three or four instances where an oil well had been set up right in the middle of a grain field when within a few rods there was black summer-mellow.

If the oil companies, he asked, had spent more money in the oil search than had been returned to them, whose money was it? It was money that had been taken from the customers and not one penny of it was the money of the oil companies, he said. Whatever oil costs the companies to produce, the customers will pay for it in the price of the commodity when they used it, and indeed, he said, they had already paid for it before it was spent.

He said the A.F.U. was in existence to fight collectively the battles of the farmers of this province and he called on the farmers to support their own A.F.U. organization so that it might have the strength to do. He said it was the duty of governments to concern themselves with the problems of the people and be guided by the instructions of the organized groups.

"Not Propaganda"

He denied that he was in any way spreading propaganda in the interests of any political party and that if there was a similarity between the programme of the A.F.U. and any political party, the A.F.U. programme was one that had been determined independent of any political party and had been endorsed on three occasions at least in convention of A.F.U. delegates.

Two resolutions were passed by the meeting. Both are evidence that the proposal of the Board of Arbitration are not acceptable. Both are based on the probable income from the oil and recognize that the oil companies are in the field for profit and will charge for oil products what is necessary to cover the cost.

The resolutions follow:

"That in the opinion of this meeting the decision (of the Arbitration board) is entirely inadequate; in particular there should be an alternative within the choice of the Respondent (Bilzer), based on the possibility that, with an oil well in the back yard, the owner may not want to continue farming operations on this land; taking the land out of the country required, forthwith, to indemnify such owner by outright purchase at the rate per acre and using the formula set out in the decision of the Board of Arbitration, i.e., \$75 per acre; 60% for inconvenience and severance; one-third for compulsory taking."

"The proposal then would be:

"160 acres at \$75	per acre	\$12,000
"Plus 50% for inconvenience and severance....	6,000	
"Plus one-third for compulsory taking....	6,000	
Total	\$24,000	

"If the owner decided to stay on the farm with one or more oil wells in operation then the proposal should be:

"That in case Respondent (Bilzer) does not want to sell or move off the farm because an oil well or wells have been drilled, compensation for inconvenience and severance and compulsory taking be paid at the rate of \$4,000 for each well drilled on the property to cover inconvenience, severance and compulsory taking."

The probable income from the well affected by the decision is likely to be, for a minimum period of 20 years and at the present price of crude, nearly \$3,000,000.

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